

MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION
CASELOAD STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Broadway Inn, Missoula, Montana

Minutes

July 17, 2008

(Approved at the October 10, 2008 Commission Meeting)

Call to Order

The meeting of the Caseload Standards Committee of the Montana Public Defender Commission was called to order by Committee Chair Steve Nardi at approximately 2:10 p.m.

Commissioners Present

Vic Miller, Steve Nardi, and Wendy Holton

Other Interested Parties

Randi Hood, Chief Public Defender; Joslyn Hunt, Assistant Appellate Defender; Sarah Braden, Paralegal, Appellate Program; Scott Crichton, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 2, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted.

Purpose of Committee (exhibit CS-1)

Commissioner Nardi recommended that this committee be renamed to Caseload and Standards Committee. Commissioners Holton and Miller agreed and the committee will suggest the change to the full Commission.

Review Caseload Management Tool (exhibits CS-2 and CS-3)

Chief Hood advised the committee that the bargaining unit developed a caseload spreadsheet that has been in test since March, 2008. Chief Hood explained the caseload management tool will be finalized with the union at the next meeting with some discussion on the weight given each case type. Chief Hood explained that high numbers are going to be in Courts of Limited Jurisdiction. She continued to explain that Region 1 tracks caseloads for both FTE and contract attorneys. Commissioner Holton wants all contractors to be tracked.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Old Business/New Business (*Action Items)

Commissioner Nardi recommended that the wording for the Post Conviction Proceedings standard be changed to have all post-conviction cases handled by contract counsel.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.